

"W.D. ATLAS"

IT IS SUBMITTED the Whyalla Surveyors be informed that the contents of their letter of 22.11.65 has been noted and their remarks on the inadequacy of the steering arrangements in conjunction with the new rudder blade area ~~is~~ concurred in.

In view of its history it is also agreed that it would be unacceptable to allow the dredger to proceed to Sydney, in spite of the recommended repairs to the rudder stock and steering gear, without taking some precautions.

It is therefore <sup>considered</sup> suggested that for the voyage Whyalla - Sydney a relief tackle be fitted to the rudder in addition to carrying out repairs to the stock and steering gear as recommended. The tackle could be rigged to the aft end of the rudder blade and consist of a chain led over the quarter sides port and starboard by means of outriggers welded in place and with the sheaves at the appropriate angle. At the tail end of the chain in board could be a wire rope purchase led ~~on~~ to the winches available. While sailing in sheltered waters the chains could be left slack to allow for manoeuvring with the steering gear, when on a set course in open water the chain could be set tight with the rudder blade at the appropriate helm angle.

It is also advisable to reduce the maximum speed to 6 knots whenever possible, consistent with the steering qualities of the dredger.

*J*

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